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PRODUCTION

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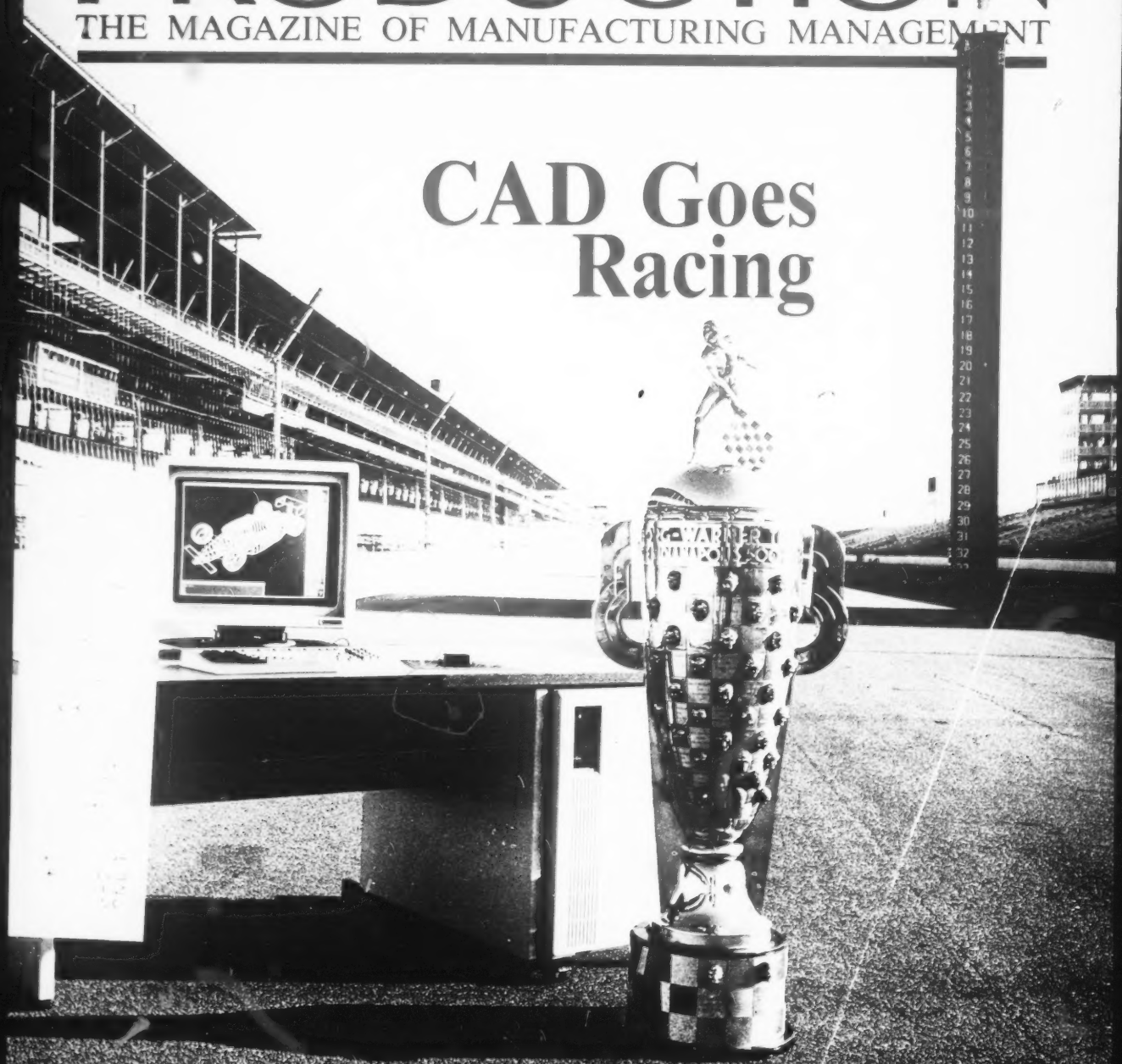

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Adhesives Get a Grip on Automotive

Making Millions of Holes With a Laser

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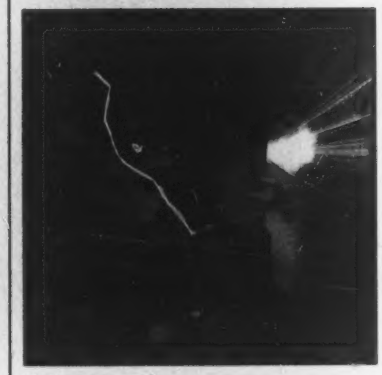

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Even Japan's Car Builders Have a Tough Time

Some of the statistics that are eagerly awaited in Detroit each month are those that describe the Big Three automakers' monthly sales. During the past several months, the general order has been Ford up, General Motors down, and Chrysler way down.

An interesting piece of information recently came our way, from the always-helpful people at Honda North America. We think it proves enlightening, especially for those persons who think that the tendency for U.S. car builders is to stumble while the Japanese manufacturers march straight ahead.

These are the retail figures for passenger cars sold in Japan:

	February		
	1989	1988	89/88
Honda	26,409	33,273	−21%
Toyota	117,006	135,632	−14%
Nissan	75,012	71,383	+ 5%
Mitsubishi	10,117	13,014	−22%
Mazda	15,110	16,753	−10%
Daihatsu	2,946	2,152	+37%
Fuji	5,278	4,375	+21%
Suzuki	1,485	1,913	−22%
Isuzu	3,269	3,633	−10%
Imports	10,579	8,212	+29%
Total	267,211	290,340	−8%

It doesn't look too indomitable to us.—*GSV*

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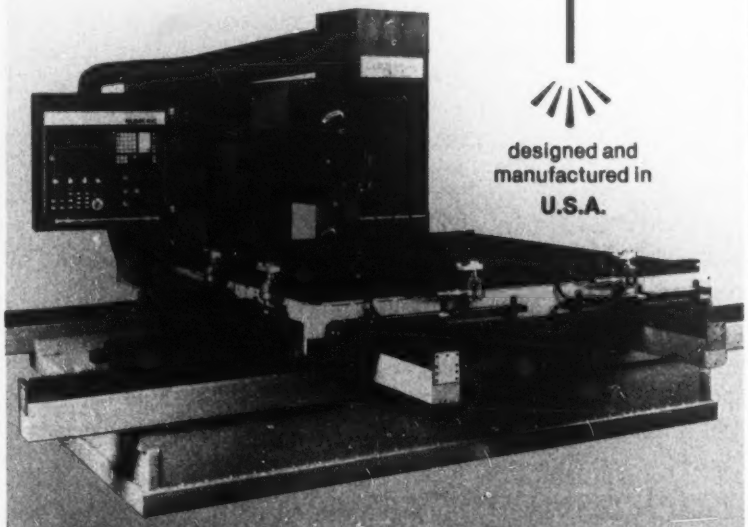

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Change for MTTA

The Machine Tool Trades Association (MTTA) has changed its name to the Machine Tool Technologies Association. President Arthur Mitchell says this change "reflects the overall elements of change in the machine tool industry in recent years."

Stemming from the MTTA's outward mission to the Soviet Union last year, the Association has received an invitation from the Deputy Minister for Machine Building, B. Kurakin, for senior management officials to visit the U.S.S.R. this month. The first mission apparently resulted in a number of agreements and joint ventures between Soviet and British machine tool companies.—*PM*